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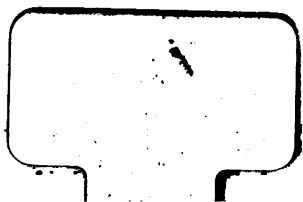


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THE
DUTIES OF COVERING-SERJEANTS
IN
Company and Battalion Drill:

WITH
AN APPENDIX ON THEIR DUTIES IN BRIGADE.
IN ACCORDANCE WITH
THE FIELD EXERCISE AND EVOLUTIONS OF INFANTRY, 1867.

BY
CAPTAIN WILLIAM D. MALTON,

THE SCOTTISH BORDERERS MILITIA.

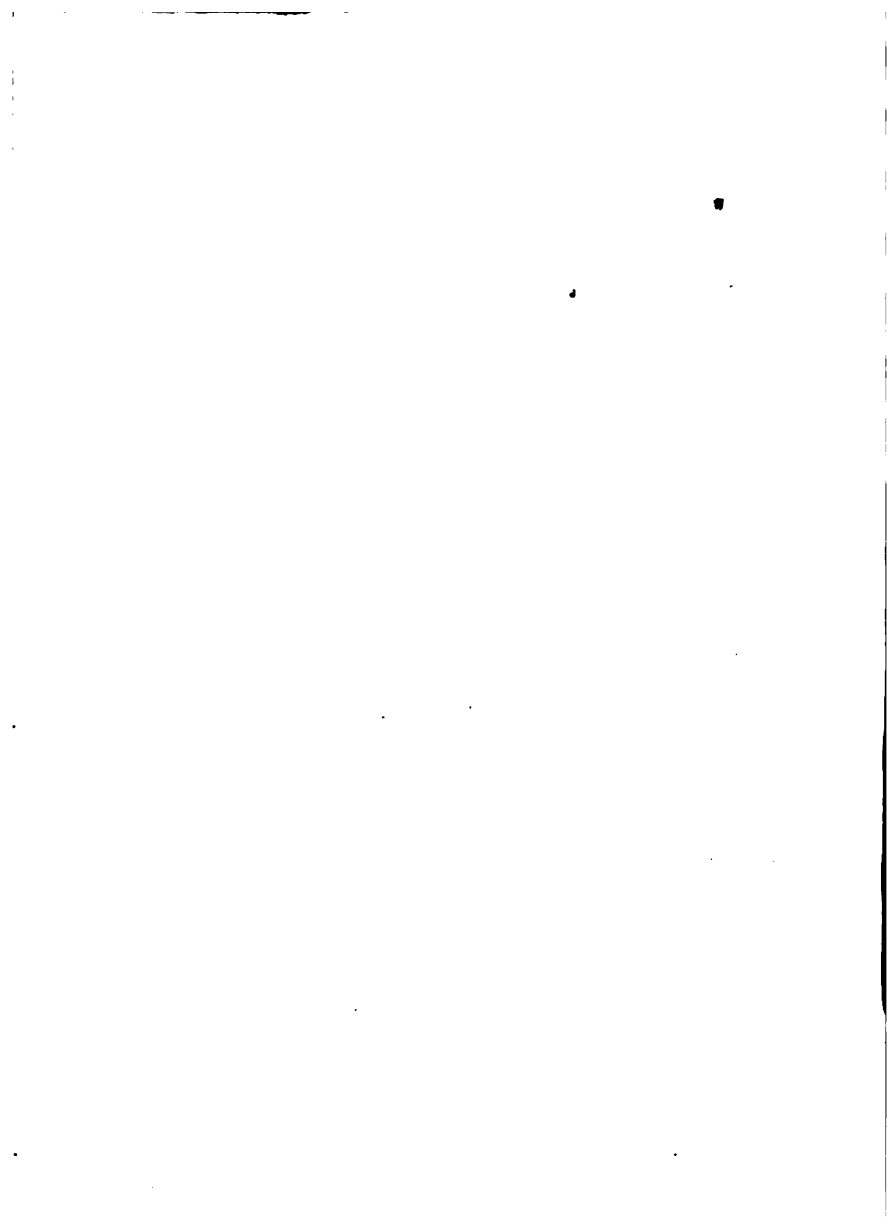
(*Author of "Company and Battalion Drill Illustrated," &c. &c.*)

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PREFACE.

THE following directions for Covering-Serjeants have been compiled from the new editions of *Company and Battalion Drill Illustrated*, and *Brigade Drill*, by the same Author.

JUNE, 1867.

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27 The marginal words of command (printed in CAPITALS) are those given by the Drill Instructor in PART I., and by the Battalion-commander in PART II.

In PART II. the Majors' words are distinguished by smaller capitals:
thus—STEADY.

INTRODUCTION.

(1) *Degrees of March, and Cadence.*

In Slow or Quick time the length of a pace is 30 inches: except in "stepping out", when it is 33 inches, and in "stepping short", when it is 10 inches.

In Double time, in which there is neither 'stepping out' nor 'stepping short', the length of a pace is 36 inches.

[When a Company (Subdivision, or Section) is *wheeling*: the file on the wheeling flank, only, takes a full pace; the remainder shortening their pace in proportion as they are near the pivot flank.]

The length of the *Side-step*, which is always taken in Quick time, is 12 inches: except when taken to clear or cover another man, in which case it will be 24 inches.

In Slow time	75 steps (= 62 yds. 18 in.)	} are taken in a minute.
In Quick time	110 „ (= 91 yds. 24 in.)	
In Double time	150 „ (=150 yards)	

The 'command for "marking time" from the Halt is *Mark-time: Slow (Quick, or Double)*.

(F. E., pp. 18, 34.)

(2) *To calculate paces for Files.*

Multiply the number of files by 8: the result, with the right-hand figure cut off, will be the required number of paces.

(F. E., p. 61.)

(3) *Meaning of the terms Pivot and Reverse, Inner and Outer, flank.*

That flank of each division of a column which, if wheeled up to, will bring the several divisions into Line in their proper order,* is termed the *pivot flank*. In a column of Companies *right*

* *i.e.* in the case of a Company, with No. 1 Section on the right, No. 4 on the left; in the case of a Battalion, with No. 1 Company on the right, the highest-numbered Company on the left.

in front (i.e. with that Company leading which, when in Line, stands on the right), the front-rank *left-hand* men of Companies are the pivots; in a column *left in front* (i.e. with that Company leading which, when in Line, stands on the left), the front-rank *right-hand* men of Companies. Hence the expression "Right in front: left the pivot", and *vice versâ*.

The flank opposite to the pivot is termed the *reverse flank*.

[A Company moving to a flank in files (or fours) is likewise said to be right, or left, in front according as its right or left is leading.]

A column always marches by the pivot flank; a *double column*, which has no pivot flank, by the proper left; unless the other flank is ordered to direct.

The *inner flank* of a Company:—In Line, the flank is nearest to the point of *appui* (p. 23): in oblique Echellon, the flank on which the wheel into echellon is made; in direct Echellon, the flank next to the preceding Company. The opposite is called the *outer flank*.

(4) *Sizing, and Telling-off, a Company.*

Sizing.—A Company is sized from flanks to centre, thus:—

The men are first formed in single rank according to their height: the tallest man being placed on the right, the shortest on the left. The right-hand man is then directed to take 3 paces to the front; the next man to place himself 3 paces in front of the left-hand man of the rank, as a new left-hand man; the third tallest man to place himself on the left of the right-hand man, the fourth tallest, on the right of the left-hand man, of the new rank: and so on alternately till the rank is complete. The men are next directed to number from the right, and told off into Subdivisions, the right Subdivision being invariably made to consist of an even number of men; and—the left-hand man of the rank, if an odd number, having first been cautioned to stand fast—the even numbers of the right Subdivision, and the odd numbers of the left, are directed to take one pace to the rear. Lastly, the whole are closed on the centre file, and ordered to dress by the

right. When the men have once been sized, they have to remember their proper places.

Telling-off.—A Company, having been numbered from right to left, is told off into a *right* and *left* Subdivision, and into four Sections numbered 1, 2, 3, and 4, from the right.

Odd numbers (*i. e.*, the front-rank men numbered 1, 3, 5, &c., together with their respective rear-rank men) are *right* files; even numbers (2, 4, 6, &c.) are *left* files. If the file on the left of the Company, however, is an odd number, it will act as a left file: and the left-but-one file—though an even number—will act as a right file: so that in forming Fours, the left four of the Company may be complete. With the same object, when a Company consists of an uneven number of men, and there is consequently one incomplete, or 'blank,' file, that file is placed the 3rd from the left of the Company.

Should there be an uneven number of files in the Company, one Subdivision will, of course, be stronger by a file than the other. When this is the case in a *right* Company (*i. e.* one whose number in the Battalion is odd), such extra file will be included in the right Subdivision: in a *left* Company (*i. e.* one whose number in the Battalion is even), it will be included in the left Subdivision. When the two Sections of *either* Subdivision are unequal, the stronger of the two will be on the outer flank.

(5) *On Wheeling.*

(a) *Wheeling on a halted pivot*.—1. Whenever a Company is to wheel *forward*: the pivot man* will, on the caution *RIGHT* (or *LEFT*) or *INWARDS*, *WHEEL*, face to the new front and raise his disengaged hand in line with the elbow; his rear-rank man at the same time uncovering, by taking a short pace to his rear and then a side-step of 24 inches towards the outer (or wheeling) flank: the latter will regain his place during the wheel, the former will drop his hand on the word †*Eyes front*. 2. When the wheel is to be *backward*—whether the men are (for the reason given in Rule 3) faced-about to wheel, or not—the pivot man will face but will not raise his hand,

* *viz.*: the front-rank man on the flank on which the wheel is to be made.

† In wheeling (in Battalion) from open column into Line, when the Company that has wheeled up to him gets that word.

nor will his rear-rank man uncover. [These rules apply equally to the pivot files of Subdivisions or Sections: except that in wheeling from column into Line the pivot man of the rear Subdivision or Section of the Company, only, will keep his hand raised till *Eyes front* is given; the other pivot man, or men, dropping the hand on the word *Dress*.]

When a Company in a Line formation, or change of front, by echellon (*see Note, p. 15*) is faced to the rear before getting the caution to wheel, the movement will proceed as though the proper front rank were in front; the proper rear-rank man of the pivot file acting as pivot man, &c.

3. No body consisting of more than 12 files will ever be wheeled back more than the eighth of a circle without being first faced-about.

(b) *Wheeling on a moveable pivot.*—A wheel is said to be made 'on a moveable pivot' when a Company (Subdivision, or Section) wheels when already in movement; the pivot man bringing his inner shoulder gradually round with the other men, and circling round the wheeling point with very short paces.

(c) *Wheeling on a moveable pivot from the Halt.*—When halted men are required to wheel so that the word FORWARD may be given at any period of the wheel, the caution to wheel will be preceded by the words ON THE MOVE. In this case, the pivot man, instead of facing on the word WHEEL, will stand fast till the word MARCH: he will then proceed as explained in (b).

During a Wheel:—The front-rank men must preserve the touch to the pivot flank and glance their eyes to the wheeling flank: yielding to any pressure coming from the former, resisting any that may come from the latter. The rear-rank men will follow their respective front-rank men, keeping their proper distances and covering.

(F. E., pp. 48, 65, 76, 83.)

POSTING OF COVERING-SERGEANTS.

(1) *In a Company in Line at close order :—*

The Coverer is on the right of the rear rank.

(2) *In a Company in Column :—*

The Coverer is one pace in rear of the 2nd file from the pivot flank.*

(3) *In a Company formed in column of Subdivisions (or Sections) :—*

The Coverer is one pace in rear of the 2nd file from the pivot flank of the front Subdivision (or Section).*

[In column of Sections, if there is no supernumerary Officer or Serjeant to lead the 2nd Section, it will be led by the Coverer.]

(4) *In File-marching, and the flank march by Fours :—*

The Coverer marches at the head of the front rank of the Company.

Exceptions.—1. When a column takes ground by files or fours to the reverse flank, the Captains—and, consequently, the Coverers—do not change to the leading flank unless ordered to do so. When a *close* column takes ground to a flank by fours, the Coverer of each Company, if on the leading flank, marches at the head of its 2nd rank.

(5) *In Echelon (oblique or direct) of Companies :—*

The Coverer of each Company is on the outer flank of its front rank.

[In taking ground to a flank by echelon of Subdivisions (or Sections), the Coverer retains his position.]

* Except when required to fall in on the reverse flank : see pp. 44-46.

General Rules.

1. *Changing flanks.*—When a Captain changes his flank, his Coverer (except when required to give a point, or to fall in on the other flank*) will change with him; passing by the rear in double time. When both Captain and Coverer change by the rear, the latter will always follow the former.

2. *Replacing the Captain.*—Whenever a Captain moves from the front rank, not for the purpose of changing his flank, the Coverer—unless required to give a point—will take his place and preserve it till his return. When both Captain and Coverer move out during a formation in Line, the right-hand man of the rear rank will move up into the Captain's place.

3. *Giving points.*—A Coverer, in giving a point, will always move by the shortest line and in double time.

- (a) When, in a quarter-circle wheel from the halt, a Coverer has to mark where the wheeling flank of his Company (or of its front Subdivision, or Section) will rest † :—he gives his point with his rifle at the 'shoulder', facing to the new front and raising his left hand in line with the elbow. When a Company is to wheel a given number of paces, in which case the Coverer will step the paces, ‡ he gives his point in like manner except that he does not raise his hand.
- (b) A Serjeant, when marking a point in Line formations, stands with his rifle at the 'recover', § facing to the point of *appui*. As the Company approaches him, he holds out his inner arm with the fist clenched at right angles to the body; dropping his arm as soon as the man opposite to his fist has dressed

* See PART II, Nos. 20-23, 26-29.

† See pp. 13-16.

‡ See p. 14.

§ In the 'recover', the rifle is raised perpendicularly in front of the face, barrel to the front: the right hand grasps the small of the butt, thumb as high as the mouth: the left hand is under the butt, thumb in front of the heel, first two joints of the fingers round the side.

up to it. While the inner arm is thus extended, the rifle will be held by the small, at the position of the 'recover', with the hand of the other arm, the toe of the butt resting against the chest.

4. Serjeants, when moving with their Companies or with the Battalion, do not fix swords; except while escorting the Colours and when in Square. They stand at ease and come to *Attention* with the men; but the only motions of the rifle they perform with them are the 'shoulder,' the 'slope' (or 'trail'), and the 'order', as laid down for the short rifle.

PART I.—COMPANY DRILL.

N.B.—A Company will always be drilled as though it were with the Battalion. The Instructor will state, previously to each movement, the supposed formation of the Battalion, thus—*AS A COMPANY IN LINE, OR AS A COMPANY IN COLUMN RIGHT (or LEFT) IN FRONT*; and the Coverer, if not already in his place, will take post accordingly.

. Serjeants will, if necessary, supply the places of Officers, except that they will not move out in front of the Line when it takes open order; and Corporals from the ranks the places of Serjeants. By “the supernumerary Serjeant” will be meant the senior supernumerary Serjeant.

No. 1. *A Company as in Line taking open order, and resuming close order.*

(F. E. II., Sec. 1.)

REAR RANK
TAKE OPEN
ORDER.

MARCH.

(1) *On the word ORDER*—The Coverer will take a side-step of 24 inches to his left, into the place vacated by the right-hand man of the rear rank.

(2) *On the word MARCH*—He will take a side-pace to his right, and then a pace to his front into the Captain's place.

REAR RANK
TAKE CLOSE
ORDER.

MARCH.

On the word MARCH—The Coverer will take 2 paces to his rear, and one side-pace to his left; when the supernumerary Officers have passed to the rear and the Captain is in his place, will take a side-pace to the right and a pace to the front into his place in Line

No. 2. *Marching past in Slow and Quick time.*

(F. E. II., Sec. 13.)

(A) *In Slow time.*

- Left wheel.
Forward.* (1) *At the 2nd wheel*—The Coverer will change flank.
- Left wheel.
Forward : by the
right.
[Rear rank take
open order.]* (2) *On the Captain's word "open order"*—He will move up into the place vacated by the Captain, and lead the Company.
- Rear rank take
close order.]* (3) *On the Captain's word "close order"*—He will fall back to the rear of the 2nd file from the right of the Company.
- Left wheel.
Forward : by the
left.* (4) *At the 3rd wheel*—He will change flank.
- Left wheel.
Forward.*

(B) *In Quick time.*

The Coverer changes flank at the 2nd and 3rd wheels.

No. 3. *A Company as in Column wheeling into Line.*

(F. E. II., Secs. 4, 10.)

(A) *From the Halt.**

- LEFT
(or RIGHT)
WHEEL INTO
LINE.
Q. MARCH* (1) *On the word LINE*—The Coverer will mark where the reverse flank of the Company will rest in Line, aligning himself with the pivot man.
- (2) *On the Captain's word "Eyes front"*—He will drop his left hand and take post in Line.

(B) *On a moveable pivot.*

- LEFT
(or RIGHT)
WHEEL INTO
LINE.
FORWARD.* *During the Wheel*—The Coverer, if right is in front, will move along the rear ; if left is in front, will move up ; to his post in Line.

* In this movement the Company is supposed to be the *front* Company of an open column : see PART II., No. 19 (A).

No. 4. *A Company as in Line wheeling into Column.*

(F. E. II., Secs. 5, 10.)

(A) *From the Halt: backward.**

OPEN
COLUMN,
RIGHT
(or LEFT)
IN FRONT.
—
RIGHT-ABOUT
FACE.
—
RIGHT
(or LEFT)
WHEEL:
Q. MARCH.

(1) *On the word FRONT*—The Coverer will mark where the wheeling flank of the Company will rest in column.

(2) *On the Captain's word "Halt, front: dress"*—He will drop his left hand and take post in column.

(B) *On a moveable pivot: forward.*

RIGHT
(or LEFT)
WHEEL.
—
FORWARD.

During the Wheel—The Coverer, if the wheel is to the right, will pass along the rear; if to the left, will fall back; to his place in column.

No. 5. *A Company as in Line or Column wheeling a given number of paces on either flank, from the Halt.*

(F. E. II., Sec. 6.)

[The 7th file wheeling 8 paces will complete the quarter circle: 4 paces, the eighth of a circle: 2 paces, the sixteenth of a circle.]

— PACES
RIGHT
(or LEFT)
WHEEL.
or
— PACES
ON THE LEFT
(or RIGHT)
BACKWARD
WHEEL.
—
Q. MARCH.

(1) *On the word WHEEL*—The Coverer will place himself with his back to the 7th file from the pivot file, in front or rear of it according as the wheel is to be forward or backward; and having taken the named number of paces along the circumference of the circle of which the pivot is the centre, will

* In this movement the Company is considered the *right-* (or *left-*) *flank* Company of a Battalion in Line: see Part II., No. 12 (A).

halt [or, if he has taken the paces to the rear, will halt and face-about].

- (2) *On the Captain's word "Eyes front"*—He will take post on the furthest flank of the Company, aligned with the front rank.

Note.—If the Company is faced-about before the *Caution* is given (i. e. as if it were a thrown-back Company of an open column forming Line on a rear Company, or of a Battalion in Line changing front by echelon on fixed pivots*): the Coverer, after the Company has been faced-about, will take his paces—to the present front, or rear, as the case may be—precisely as though it were standing front rank in front.

No. 6. *A Company as in Line wheeling on the centre from the Halt.*

(F. E. II., Sec. 7.)

WHEEL
ON THE
CENTRE
[— PACES]
TO THE
RIGHT
(or LEFT).
—
STEADY.

- (1) *On the Captain's word "Wheel"*—The Coverer, if the Company is to wheel a quarter circle, will mark where the outer flank of the wheeling-forward Subdivision will rest, aligning himself with the pivot man; † if the paces are named, he will step them from the 7th file from the centre of the Company, counting towards the flank that is to wheel forward.

* See pp. 42, 43, 53.

† In this case, the front-rank man on the inner flank of the wheeling-forward Subdivision will be the pivot.

- (2) *On the Captain's word "Halt (front)"*—He will give a base point in front of, and at arm's length from, the flank that wheeled forward : facing towards the supernumerary Serjeant, who will give a base point, in like manner, on the opposite flank of the Company.
- (3) *On the word STEADY*—The Coverer and supernumerary Serjeant will come to the 'shoulder' and take post in Line.

N.B.—In this movement the Company is considered as the (central) Company of formation of a Battalion in Line changing front by echelon on fixed pivots. See p. 53.

No. 7. A Company as in Line wheeling into column of Subdivisions (or Sections).

(F. E. II., Secs. 8, 10.)

(A) *From the Halt: backward.**

BY
SUBDIVISIONS
[or SECTIONS]:
ON
THE LEFT
(or RIGHT)
BACKWARD
WHEEL.†
Q. MARCH.

On the word WHEEL—The Coverer will mark where the wheeling flank of that Subdivision (or Section) which will be at the head of the column will rest.

On the Captain's word "Halt (front) dress"—He will drop his left hand and take post in column.

(B) *On moveable pivots: forward.*

BY
SUBDIVISIONS
[or SECTIONS]:
RIGHT

During the wheel—The Coverer, if the wheel is to the right, will move along the rear ; if the wheel is to

* In this movement the Company is considered, as in No. 4, the *right* (or *left*) flank Company of a Battalion in Line: see ¶ p. 32.

† Or, if the Subdivisions (or Sections) exceed 12 files, OPEN COLUMN OF SUBDIVISIONS (or SECTIONS): — IN FRONT. RIGHT-ABOUT FACE. — WHEEL: Q. MARCH.

(or LEFT)
WHEEL
FORWARD.

the left, will double up (passing by the reverse flank of the column); to his place in rear of the leading Subdivision (or Section).

[In the *Echelon march* of Subdivisions (or Sections), the Coverer retains his position.]

No. 8. *An open column of Subdivisions (or Sections) wheeling into Line.*

(F. E. II, Secs. 9, 10.)

(A) *From the Halt.**

LEFT
(or RIGHT)
WHEEL INTO
LINE.
Q. MARCH.

- (1) *On the word LINE*—The Coverer will mark where the wheeling flank of the front Subdivision (or Section) of the column will rest in Line.
- (2) *On the Captain's word "Eyes front"*—He will drop his left hand, and take post in Line.

(B) *On moveable pivots.*

LEFT
(or RIGHT)
WHEEL
INTO LINE
FORWARD.

The Coverer will move, during the wheel, to his place in Line: passing, if the column was left in front, round the reverse flank(s) of the rear Subdivision (or Sections).

* In this movement the Company is considered, as in No. 3, the *front* Company of an open column: see ¶ p. 41.

No. 9. *A Company as in Line advancing from a flank in open column of Subdivisions (or Sections).**

RIGHT
(or LEFT)
— TO
THE FRONT.
REMAINING
—: ON
THE MOVE,
RIGHT
(or LEFT)
WHEEL.
—
Q. MARCH.
—
FORWARD.

(F. E. II., Sec. 12.)

On the word WHEEL—The Coverer will move to his future place in column.

On the word MARCH—He will step off in his place in column.

No. 10. *A Company in column of Subdivisions (or Sections) forming to the reverse flank.*

(F. E. II., Sec. 16.)

RIGHT
(or LEFT)
FORM
COMPANY.
—
STEADY.

- (1) *When the leading Subdivision (or Section) is halted*—The Coverer will mark the spot at arm's length from which the outer † flank of the Company will rest in Line: facing to the opposite flank. The senior (or, when the formation is from Sections, the *second*) supernumerary Serjeant will, in like manner, mark the inner flank of the Company, facing in the same direction as the Coverer. ‡
- (2) *On the word STEADY*—The Coverer and supernumerary Serjeant giving the base points will come to the 'shoulder' and take post in Line.

* In this movement the Company is considered the *right-* (or *left-*) *flank* Company of a Battalion in Line: see PART II., No. 14 (B).

† The flank furthest from the Captain.

‡ The Company being considered the *leading one* of an open column forming Line to the reverse flank: see PART II., No. 21.

No. 11. *Formations from Files or Fours.*

(F. E. II, Secs., 17-21.).

(a) *Forming Company (Subdivisions, or Sections) to the front.*FRONT FORM
COMPANY
[SUBDIVISIONS,
or SECTIONS].The Coverer will move across to his place (by the rear,
as usual), during the formation.FORWARD.
or
HALT: DRESS.(b) *Forming Company to the reverse flank.*ON THE
LEADING
FILE: RIGHT
(or LEFT)
FORM
COMPANY.
STEADY.The Coverer will mark the outer flank, the supernu-
merary Serjeant the inner flank, of the Company;
precisely as directed in No. 10: both coming to
the 'shoulder' and taking post in Line on the
word STEADY.

See p. 44.

(c) *Forming Company to the right- (or left-) about.*ON THE
LEADING
FILE: RIGHT-
(or LEFT-)
ABOUT FORM
COMPANY.
STEADY.The Coverer and supernumerary Serjeant will proceed
as directed in (b).

See PART II., No. 4.

No. 12. *The Side (or Closing) Step.*

(F. E. II., Sec. 22.)

RIGHT (or
LEFT) CLOSE.
Q. MARCH.The Coverer will remain in his place and close with
the Company.

No. 13. *Countermarching by Ranks.*

(F. E. II., Sec. 23.)

COUNTER-
MARCH BY
RANKS.
RIGHT AND
LEFT FACE.
Q. MARCH.

- (1) *On the word RANKS*—The Coverer will step up and cover the Captain.
- (2) *On the word FACE*—He will face to the right-about.
- (3) *On the Captain's word "Dress"*—He will fall back to his place in the new rear.

No. 14. *A Company diminishing front by forming Subdivisions : and Subdivisions forming Sections.*

(F. E. II., Secs. 24-26.)

N.B.—In diminishing the front of a company (or column of Subdivisions) from the halt or while advancing, the pivot Subdivision (or Sections) will always move in rear of the reverse ; in diminishing front while retiring, the reverse will move in rear of the pivot.

Suppose Company forming Subdivisions :—

(A) *From the Halt.*

FORM
(SUBDIVISIONS.

LEFT or RIGHT)
SUBDIVISION :
RIGHT- (or
LEFT-) ABOUT
THREE-
QUARTERS
FACE

Q. MARCH.

- On the word FACE*—The Coverer will take a side-pace of 24 inches outwards, and then face inwards.
- During the Movement*—He will move to his post in rear of the front Subdivision.

(B) *On the March.*

FORM
SUBDIVISIONS.

- During the Movement*—The Coverer will move to his post in rear of the leading Subdivision.

[When front is diminished by *breaking off files*, the Coverer will move up and cover the Captain till all the files are again brought up.]

No. 15. *Sections increasing front by forming Subdivisions or Company: and Subdivisions forming Company.*

(F. E. II., Secs. 27-29.)

N.B.—In increasing the front of a column of Sections (or Subdivisions) from the halt or while advancing, the second and rear Sections (or the rear Subdivision) will always incline in the direction of the pivot flank; in increasing front while retiring, will incline in the direction of the reverse flank.

Suppose Sections forming Subdivisions (or Company)—

(A) *From the Halt.*

FORM
SUBDIVISIONS
(or COMPANY).

— (or REAR)
SECTIONS:
— HALF FACE.

Q. MARCH.

(1) *On the word* SUBDIVISIONS (or COMPANY)—The Coverer will mark where the pivot flank of the front Subdivision (or of the Company) will rest.

(2) *On the Captain's word "Dress"*—He will take his place in column.

(B) *On the March.*

FORM
SUBDIVISIONS
(or COMPANY).

The Coverer will get to his place in column by the time the Captain is giving his (last) word *Front turn. Quick.*

No. 16. *Forming close column of Sections and Company Square.*

(F. E. II., Sec. 32.)

[The column will be formed on the 2nd Section.]

FORM
COMPANY
SQUARE.

Form close
column of
Sections.

Q. March.

On the Captain's word "Sections"—The Coverer will place himself in front of the leading file of the 1st Section, which he will lead into column on the word *March.*

*Prepare for
Cavalry.
Ready.
etc.*

On the Captain's word "Cavalry"—He will move, with the Captain and Supernumeraries, into the centre of the column ; and fix his sword.

Order Arms.

On the Captain's word "Arms"—He will cover the Captain, on the pivot flank of the 1st Section.

RE-FORM
COMPANY.

Re-forming Company.

*Unfix bayonets
(or swords).*

Company having been formed : the Coverer will fall back to his original place.

*Re-form
Company.
Q. March.*

* No. 17. *Rallying Square.*

(F. E., II., Sec. 33.)

RE-FORM
COMPANY.

*Unfix bayonets
(or swords).*

*Re-form
Company.*

When a Rallying Square is to be reduced :—On the Captain's word *Unfix bayonets (or swords)*, the Coverer will unfix his sword and mark the pivot flank, facing the supposed enemy ; and on the following word of command the men will form upon him.

PART II.—BATTALION DRILL.

INTRODUCTION.

1. *Alignment and Points of Formation.*—An alignment is the imaginary line determined previously to a formation in Line, or on which the pivot flank of a column is placed. That point in an alignment from which a formation is regulated is called the 'point of *appui*.' When this point is at either extremity of the alignment, the Adjutant gives a 'distant point' at the opposite extremity; when it is at any other point in the alignment, there will be a distant point given by the junior Major on the left, and by the Adjutant on the right of the Line. When a Battalion is formed in Line, the centre is the point of *appui*.
2. *Giving Points.*—(a) In all deployments, and formations of *Line*, on any one Company, the Covering-serjeant of that Company is placed in front of one of its flank files, the supernumerary Serjeant in front of the other; as a base: when the deployment or formation is to be on the two centre Companies (or Subdivisions), the Coverer of each centre Company marks its outer flank, the centre Serjeant giving a 3rd (centre) base point. When Line is formed from open column on a central Company, the Coverer gives his point opposite the left of the Company; in a deployment outwards, opposite its reverse flank; in an echellon change of front on a central Company, opposite the flank that wheels forward: in all other cases, he takes the flank furthest from the point of formation. In a deployment, the base points are invariably given on the caution; in every

other Line formation, when the named Company (or Companies) have been, if necessary, wheeled into position. The base points do not fall into their places in Line till the Major's word **STEADY** at the completion of the formation.

The Coverer of each of the remaining Companies runs out as it arrives within 20 paces of its point of formation, to mark where its outer flank will rest in Line; covering in the line established by the base points, and taking post when the 2nd Company from his own (towards the distant point) gets the word *Eyes front*.

N.B.—In formations from Subdivisions (or Sections), a Coverer takes up distance for his whole Company.

A Serjeant when marking a point in Line formations, invariably faces to the point of *appui* (thus, if the formation is on the right-flank Company, he faces to the right; if on the left-flank Company, to the left; if on a central Company, or on the centre of the Battalion, inwards); standing as directed in (b), p. 10.

The covering of all foot points will be corrected on the distant mounted point by the Major nearest the point of formation; or by the senior Major (assisted by the Serjeant-major), on the two distant points, in a formation on the centre of the Battalion (or a central Company), or a deployment to both flanks.

- (b) In the formation of *column* from Line on any named Company:—If the column is to be formed in *rear* of either flank Company, the Coverer of the named Company gives the base point; placing himself 6 paces in front of, and facing towards, his Captain.* The Coverer of each of the remaining Companies

* If the column is to be formed in *front* of either flank Company, the supernumerary Serjeant of the named Company gives the base point, 6 paces in rear of, and facing towards, its Captain.


takes up covering and distance for his own Company, or for the Company which will stand next in front of it, according as he moves into column in rear or in front of the named Company. When the formation is to be on a central Company (whether right or left in front), the Coverer of the named Company marks the pivot flank of that which will form next in front of his own, covering on his Captain and then facing to the front; the remaining Coverers acting as above directed.

When a column closes on, or opens from, its front (or rear) Company, the Coverer of the named Company gives a base point 6 paces in front (or rear) of its Captain; facing towards, and covering on, the line of Captains.

When giving the base point for a column, a Serjeant stands at the 'recover': coming to the 'shoulder' and taking post in column on the Major's word *STEADY* at the completion of the movement. When marking the pivot flank of a Company, a Coverer takes up his covering at the 'recover', coming to the 'shoulder' when correctly covered: he will take post when the Company gets the word *Halt, front: dress*.

- (c) When Coverers mark the points for their Companies to form upon simultaneously in column (as in forming on Parade), they take up their distances and covering with recovered Arms; all coming to the 'shoulder' together on the word *STEADY* from the Adjutant, or other person who has covered them.

See Field Ex., pp. 65, 214.

 The directions given in the following pages do not apply to the Coverer of the Officer on the left of the Line; except in No. 2, where he is specifically mentioned. In all formations *from* Line he will fall back (on the *Caution*) into the supernumerary rank, in every formation *of* Line will move up on the left of his Company, with his Officer.

SEC. I.—LINE MOVEMENTS.

No. 1. *A Battalion in Line taking open order, and resuming close order.*

(F. E. IV., Sec. 4.)

REAR RANK
TAKE OPEN
[CLOSE]
ORDER.
—
MARCH.

The Coverer of each Company will proceed as directed in PART I., No. 1.

No. 2. *Dressing a Battalion in Line.*

(F. E. IV., Sec. 7.)

DRESS BY THE
RIGHT (or
LEFT).

COVERERS:
— PACES.
Q. MARCH.

—
STEADY.

BATTALION:
Q. MARCH.

—
STEADY.

On the word RIGHT (or LEFT)—If the Line is to dress by the right, each Coverer will at once move up into his Captain's place: if by the left, will first (by taking a pace to the rear, and a side-pace to the left) make way for his Captain to pass to the rear, and will then move up into his place. The Coverer of the Officer on the left of the Line will, in either case, move up into his place.

On the word MARCH—The Coverers (including the Coverer of the Officer on the left of the Line) will take the named number of paces straight to their front, face to the named flank, and cover, coming to the 'recover' as they face. [The Major on the named flank will then cover them, and give STEADY.]

Each Coverer, as his Company approaches him, will hold out his inner arm as in Line formations.

On the 2nd word STEADY—All the Coverers will come to the 'shoulder' and take post in Line: the Captains making way for them to pass.

No. 3. *Advancing and Retiring by Wings.*

(F. E. IV., Sec. 8.)

THE
BATTALION
WILL FIRE
AND ADVANCE
[or RETIRE]
BY WINGS.

Coverers remain posted as in Line. No points will be given when Line is re-formed.

No. 4. *A Battalion, advancing or retiring in Line, passing Obstacles.*

(F. E. IV., Sec. 9.)

ADVANCE [or
RETIRE] BY
FOURS FROM
THE [PROPER]
— OF
COMPANIES.
—
FORM
FOURS: —
— WHEEL.

When the Companies, moving by Fours to the rear, are directed to form to the right- (or left-) about on their leading files:—All the Coverers, and the supernumerary Serjeant of the leading Company of the column, will be called out and covered in line before the heads of Companies reach them. The Company at the head of the column will then march upon, and form round, its supernumerary Serjeant; each of the other Companies, on the Coverer of the Company in front of it in column. See PART I., No. 11 (c).

SEC. II.—COLUMN MOVEMENTS.

No. 5. *Forming quarter-distance or close column from any more open column.*

(F. E., IV. Sec. 12.)

(a) *Closing to the front: on the halt, or by halting the column.*

CLOSE TO
QUARTER
DISTANCE ON
THE FRONT
COMPANY
(or TO THE
FRONT).
[Q. MARCH.];

On the Caution [or, if the column is on the march, on his Captain's word "*Halt: dress*"]—The Coverer of the front Company will give a base point, 6 paces in front of his Captain.*

or
CLOSE TO
QUARTER
DISTANCE ON
THE REAR
COMPANY (or
TO THE REAR).

(b) *Closing on the rear: from the halt.*

REMAINING
COMPANIES:
RIGHT-ABOUT
FACE.

Q. MARCH.

STEADY.

On the Caution—The Coverer of the rear Company will give a base point 6 paces in rear of his Captain.*

[In closing on a central Company, no base point will be given.]

No. 6. *A close or quarter-distance column opening from the rear or front.*

(F. E. IV., Sec. 13.)

(a) *Opening from the rear.*

OPEN TO
— DISTANCE
FROM THE
REAR [or
FRONT].

REMAINING
COMPANIES:
[RIGHT-
ABOUT FACE.]
Q. MARCH.

On the Caution—The Coverer of the rear Company will proceed as directed in No. 5^(b).

STEADY.

* See p. 25.

(b) *Opening from the front.*

On the Caution—The Coverer of the front Company will give a base point as in No. 5(a).

[When the ground is rough:—Each of the other Coverers in succession will run out when the Company in his present rear is halted; and, placing himself clear of the flank of the column, will mark the proper distance for his own Company: falling into his place in column when his Captain gives *Halt, front: dress.*]

[In opening from a central Company, no base point will be given.]

No. 7. A close or quarter-distance column wheeling on a fixed pivot.

(F. E. IV., Sec. 16.)

COLUMN:
LEFT
(or RIGHT)
WHEEL.

Q. (or D.)
MARCH.

COLUMN:
HALT.

On the Caution—The Coverer of the front Company will mark where its wheeling flank will rest when the wheel is completed: He will resume his place in column on the word COLUMN: HALT.

[When a column wheels on a moveable pivot, the Coverer of the leading Company does not move out.]

No. 8. A close or quarter-distance column changing front on the centre.

(F. E. IV., Sec. 18.)

(a) *From the Halt.*

CHANGE
FRONT ON
THE CENTRE.

—SUB-
DIVISIONS:
RIGHT-ABOUT
FACE.

Q. (or D.)
MARCH.

HALT, FRONT:
DRESS.

On the Caution—The Coverers of the front and rear Companies will mark the points on which the pivot and reverse Subdivisions of the column, respectively, will wheel: the Coverer of the front Company placing himself in front of the inner file of its reverse Subdivision; the Coverer of the rear

Company, in rear of the inner file of its pivot Sub-division; and both facing to the centre of the column. [They will resume their places with their Companies on the word HALT, FRONT: DRESS.]

(b) *On the March.*

CHANGE
FRONT
ON THE
CENTRE.
—
—SUB-
DIVISIONS:
RIGHT-ABOUT
TURN.
FRONT TURN.

On the word RIGHT-ABOUT TURN—The Coverers of the front and rear Companies will give their points as directed in (a): taking post with their Companies on the word FRONT TURN.

No. 9. *Changing the order of a column by the successive march of the rear Companies to the front.*

(F. E. IV., Sec. 20.)

BY
SUCCESSIVE
COMPANIES:
REAR WING
TO THE
FRONT.

Each Coverer will step short while his Company is moving out of the old column: taking the Lieutenant's place when that Officer changes his flank on the Captain's word *Front turn*.

No. 10. *Changing the order of an open, half, or quarter-distance column on a Road.*

(F. E. IV., Sec. 21.)

BY FOURS
FROM THE
LEFT
[or RIGHT]:
REAR WING
TO THE
FRONT.

4th [or 1st]
SECTIONS:
INWARDS
WHEEL.
Q. MARCH.

Each Coverer will lead the front rank of his Company, as usual, while it is moving in fours to the front: moving to his place in rear of the 2nd file from the new pivot flank when his Captain gives *Front form Company*.

No. 11. *A column taking ground to a flank in Fours, or diagonally to the front by Echellon of Sections.*

(F. E. IV., Sec. 23.)

(a) *By Fours.*

TAKE
GROUND TO
THE RIGHT
(or LEFT)
IN FOURS.

FORM
FOURS: RIGHT
(or LEFT).
or
TAKE GROUND
TO THE RIGHT
(or LEFT) IN
ECHELLON.

[ON THE
MOVE:]
BY SECTIONS,
— WHEEL.
[Q. MARCH.]
FORWARD.

While a column is taking ground to a flank, the Coverers, if on the leading flank, will be responsible for the dressing of the heads of Companies. When no Company of direction is named, the leading Company of the column will direct.

In *close* column, the Coverer of each Company, if on its leading flank, will march at the head of the 2nd rank.

•

(b) *By Echellon of Sections.*

Each Coverer will retain his position.

¶ *An open column moving into an Alignment by Fours.*

MARCH ON
YOUR
COVERERS.
FORM FOURS
RIGHT (or
LEFT).

The Coverer of the leading Company (who will take his distance from the point on which the column originally marched), and each of the other Coverers in succession, will run out to take up distance and covering for the pivot flank of his Company. They will be covered from the front by the Major of the front Wing.

SEC. III.—FORMATIONS OF COLUMN FROM LINE.

No. 12. *A Battalion in Line wheeling into open column.*

(F. E. IV., Secs. 26, 27.)

(A) *Wheeling back from the Halt : by Companies.*

OPEN
COLUMN
RIGHT
(or LEFT)
IN FRONT.

The Coverer whose Company will be at the head of the column, will proceed as directed in PART I., No. 4 (A).

RIGHT-ABOUT
FACE.

Each of the other Coverers :—

RIGHT
(or LEFT)
WHEEL:
Q. MARCH.

On the word FACE—Will face to the right-about.

On the word MARCH—Will step off in the proper rear rank of his Company: halting, fronting, and moving to his place in column, on his Captain's word *Halt, front : dress.*

(B) *Wheeling forward on moveable pivots : by Companies.*

BY
COMPANIES,
RIGHT
(or LEFT)
WHEEL,
FORWARD.

Each Coverer will move to his place in column during the wheel.

¶ When a Line wheels into open column of *Subdivisions* (or *Sections*) from the halt, the Coverer whose Company will be at the head of the column will proceed as directed in PART I., No. 7 (A): the remaining Coverers will stand fast on the *caution*, moving to their places in column during the wheel. When the wheel is made on moveable pivots, all the Coverers will move to their places during the wheel, as directed in PART I., No. 7 (B).

No. 13. A Battalion formed in Line moving in open column from either flank along the rear.

(F. E., IV., Sec. 28.)

MOVE IN
COLUMN OF
COMPANIES
[SUBDIVISIONS,
or SECTIONS]
FROM
THE RIGHT
(or LEFT)
ALONG THE
REAR.

On the Caution—If the Movement is from the right, each Coverer will change flank with his Captain, then move up on the left of the front rank of his Company: if from the left, will take his Captain's place when he falls to the rear. In either case, each Coverer will lead his Company (or its future leading Subdivision, or Section) while it is moving in fours to the rear of the Line: and on the word *Front turn*, will move to the rear of the 2nd file from the flank on which the Captain is marching.

No. 14. A Battalion formed in Line advancing from a flank in open column of Companies (Subdivisions, or Sections).

(F. E., IV., Sec. 29.)

(A) *From the Halt: by Companies.*

RIGHT
(or LEFT)
COMPANY
[SUBDIVISION,
or SECTION]:
TO THE
FRONT.
REMAINING
COMPANIES
[SUBDIVISIONS,
or SECTIONS]:
ON THE MOVE,

On the Caution—The Coverer of the named Company will place himself one pace in rear of the 2nd file from its future pivot flank. If the advance is to be from the right, the Coverer of No. 2 will take a pace to the rear with his Captain.

RIGHT
(or LEFT)
WHEEL.

During the 1st wheel—If the advance is from the right, each Coverer (except the Coverer of No. 1) will move to his place in column.

Q. MARCH.
FORWARD.

If the advance is from the left, all the Coverers will fall back into their places in column directly the word MARCH is given.

34 FORMATIONS OF COLUMN FROM LINE.

(B) *From the Halt: by Subdivisions (or Sections).*

The Coverer of the Company which is to lead the column, will take his place in column on the *Caution*.

The remaining Coverers will move to their places in column during the 1st wheel.

See Note, p. 36.

When these movements are done on the march, all the Coverers will move to their places in column during the 1st wheel.

No. 15. *A Battalion formed in Line advancing in double column of Companies (Subdivisions, or Sections).*

(F. E. IV, Sec. 30.)

TWO CENTRE COMPANIES
[SUBDIVISIONS, or SECTIONS]:
TO THE FRONT.
REMAINING COMPANIES
[SUBDIVISIONS, or SECTIONS]:
ON THE MOVE, INWARDS
WHEEL.
Q. MARCH.
FORWARD.

On the Caution—The Coverers of the two flank Companies will mark the points for the 2nd wheels,* as follows. The Coverer of the right-flank Company will place himself in front of, and facing towards, the 3rd file from the right of the right-centre Company (Subdivision, or Section); the Coverer of the left-flank Company will place himself in front of, and facing towards, the left-centre Captain, and will then take 2 side-paces to the right. The Coverers to be at Company (Subdivision, or Section) distance and one pace from the Line.

The Coverers of the two centre Companies will move to one pace in rear of the outer flank of their Company (or inner Subdivision, or Section).

* Including the space required for the leaders.

On the word MARCH—The Coverers of the two centre Companies will move off in their places in column ; the remainder will move to their places during the 1st wheel.

The Coverers of the two flank Companies will stand fast till their Company (or its outer Subdivision, or Section) has completed its 2nd wheel.

See Note, p. 36.

No. 16. *A Battalion formed in Line retiring from a flank in open column of Companies (Subdivisions, or Sections).*

(F. E., IV., Sec. 31.)

RETIRE BY
COMPANIES
[SUBDIVISIONS,
or SECTIONS]
FROM THE
LEFT IN REAR
OF THE RIGHT
(or FROM THE
RIGHT IN
REAR OF THE
LEFT).

On the Caution—The Coverer of the Company on that flank in rear of which the retreat is to be made, will give a point for the 2nd wheels : placing himself at Company (Subdivision, or Section) distance and 3 paces in rear, but just clear, of the inner flank of his Company (or its outer Subdivision, or Section) ; and facing towards the Line.

The other Coverers will take post in rear of the 2nd file from the left or right of their Company according as the retreat is to commence from the right or left.

The Coverer giving the wheeling point will face-about in time to march off in his place in column when his Company comes up to him.

See Note, p. 36.

No. 17. *A Battalion formed in Line retiring from both flanks in rear of the centre, in double column of Companies (Subdivisions, or Sections).*

(F. E., IV., Sec. 31.)

RETIRE BY
COMPANIES
[SUBDIVISIONS,
or SECTIONS]
FROM BOTH
FLANKS IN
REAR OF THE
CENTRE.

On the Caution—The Coverers of the two centre Companies will give the points for the 2nd wheels, at Company (Subdivision, or Section) distance and 3 paces in rear of the 2nd files from the outer flank of their Companies (or their inner Subdivisions, or Sections); facing towards the Line. The remaining Coverers of each Wing will place themselves in rear of the 2nd file from the inner flank of their Companies.

The two Coverers giving the wheeling points will face-about in time to step off in their proper places in column.

Note to Nos. 14–17.—When either of the four preceding Movements is to be effected by the remaining Companies (Subdivisions or Sections) moving along the front (or rear) in *files* or *fours*:—The Coverer of each of those Companies will lead his Company (Subdivision, or Section) while in file or fours, taking his proper place in column on the word *Front* (or *Rear*) *turn*. The point, or points, will be given close in front (or 3 paces in rear) of the Line.

No. 18. A Battalion in Line forming open, quarter-distance, or close Column on any named Company.

(F. E., IV., Sec. 32.)

(A) Column in rear, or front, of the right-flank Company.

OPEN
(QUARTER-
DISTANCE, or
CLOSE)
COLUMN
IN REAR
[or FRONT]
OF No. 1.

REMAINING
COMPANIES:
FORM FOURS,
RIGHT.

Q. MARCH.

STEADY.

N.B.—The Serjeant—covering or supernumerary, as the case may be—who is giving the *base point for the column* when the formation is on either flank Company, will stand fast till the Major's word *STEADY* at the completion of the formation. Each Coverer marking the *pivot flank of a Company** will fall into his place in column when that Company gets the word '*Halt, front: dress*'.†

(1) *In rear.*

On the Caution—The Coverer of the named Company will give the base point 6 paces in front of his Captain.† The Coverer of No. 2 will fall to the rear with his Captain.

On the word RIGHT—The Coverer of No. 2 will mark where the left of his Company will rest in column: covering on the Captain and Coverer of No. 1.

The remaining Coverers will take their places with their leading fours.

On the word MARCH—The Companies in fours will step off. Each Coverer in succession, when within 20 paces of the pivot flank of the column, will double out and take up covering and distance for his own Company, in rear of the pivot flank of that last formed.

* i. e. its Captain's place.

† See p. 25.

(S) *In front.*

On the Caution—The supernumerary Serjeant of the named Company will give the base point, 6 in. rear of his Captain.*

On the word RIGHT—The Coverer of No. 1 will take up his own distance† in front of his Captain, cover on him and the supernumerary Serjeant, and then face to the right-about: thus marking the pivot flank of No. 2.

The remaining Coverers will take their places with their leading fours.

On the word MARCH—The Companies in fours will step off. Each Coverer, in succession, when within 20 paces of the line of covering, will double out to mark the pivot flank of the Company which will form next in front of his own; covering on the base point, and then facing to the right-about. In moving back to his place in rear of his own Company, he will pass by its *reverse* flank.

(B) Column in front, or rear, of the left-flank Company.

(S) *In front.*

— COLUMN
IN FRONT
[or REAR]
OF No. —.

REMAINING
COMPANIES:
FORM FOURS,
LEFT.

Q. MARCH
—
STEADY.

On the Caution—All the Coverers will change flanks: the supernumerary Serjeant of the named Company will then mark the base point, 6 paces in rear of the Captain.*

On the word LEFT—The Coverer of the named Company will mark the pivot flank of the Company which will form next in his front.

On the word MARCH—The formation will proceed as in A^(S).

* See p. 25.

† *i. e.* the named distance, calculated for his own Company.

(3) *In rear.*

On the Caution—The Coverer of the named Company will give the base point, 6 paces in front of his Captain. All the other Coverers will change their flanks.

On the word LEFT—The Coverer of the next Company will mark where its right will rest in column.

On the word MARCH—The formation will proceed as in A⁽¹⁾.

(C) Column on a central Company.

— COLUMN,
RIGHT
(or LEFT)
IN FRONT,
ON No. —.
REMAINING
COMPANIES:
FORM FOURS,
INWARDS.
—
Q. MARCH.
—
STEADY.

On the Caution—The Coverer of the named Company, whether right or left is to be in front, will mark the pivot flank of the Company which will stand next in front of his own: he will cover on his Captain (who, if right is to be in front, will have changed his flank), placing himself square with the Line; and will then face to the right-about. All the Coverers on the right of the named Company will change their flanks.

On the word INWARDS—The Coverer whose Company will stand next in rear of the named one, will mark its pivot flank.

The remaining Coverers will, as usual, take up covering for their own Company or for the Company that will stand next in front of it, according as they move into column in rear or front of the named Company.

40 FORMATION OF LINE FROM COLUMN.

[When a halted *double column* is formed from Line, the Coverer of the left-centre Company will give a base point 6 paces in front of his Captain. When the column is to be formed of Subdivisions, the supernumerary Serjeant of each Company will take up covering and distance for its rear Sub-division.]

SEC. IV.—FORMATION OF LINE FROM COLUMN.

No. 19. *A Battalion in open column wheeling into Line.*

(F. E., IV., Sec. 2.)

(A) *From the Halt: from column of Companies.*

LEFT
(or RIGHT)
WHEEL INTO
LINE.

The Coverer of the front Company of the column will proceed as directed in PART I., No. 3 (A).

STEADY.

Q. MARCH.

Each of the other Coverers:—

On the word LINE—If right is in front, will place himself on the right of the front rank of his Company; if left is in front, will step back a short pace.*

On the word MARCH—If right is in front, will remain and wheel on the right of his Company; if left is in front, will move up on the right of his front rank

* If the Coverer moved up to the right of the Company on the *Caution*, he would obscure the pivot man; he takes the pace to the rear to enable the rear-rank man of the pivot file to uncover.

during the wheel; thus preserving his Captain's place in Line.

He will, as usual, take post in Line on his Captain's word *Eyes front*.

LEFT
(or RIGHT)
WHEEL INTO
LINE
FORWARD.

(B) *On moveable pivots: from column of Companies.*

Each Coverer will move to his place in Line during the wheel, as directed in PART I., No. 3 (B).

¶ When a battalion open column of *Subdivisions* (or *Sections*) wheels into Line from the halt, the Coverer of the front Company will proceed as directed in PART I., No. 8 (A): the remaining Coverers will step back a short pace on the *Caution*, and move to their places in Line during the wheel. When the wheel is made on moveable pivots, all the Coverers will move to their places during the wheel.

No. 20. *A Battalion in open column forming Line to the front, on any named Company.*

(F. E., IV., Sec. 33.)

N.B.—In all the following formations: the two Serjeants of the named Company marking the base of formation will stand fast till the Major's word STEADY at the completion of the Movement.

(A) *From the Halt.*

(a) *Line on the front Company.*

FORM LINE
ON THE
FRONT
COMPANY.

On the Caution—The Coverer of each (except the front) Company will change flank.

REMAINING
COMPANIES:
FOUR PACES
ON THE RIGHT
(or LEFT)
BACKWARD
WHEEL
Q. MARCH.

The Coverer and supernumerary Serjeant of the front Company will mark the base points: in front respectively of its outer and inner flank file, according to the general rule.*

* See p. 23.

42 FORMATION OF LINE FROM COLUMN.

FORM LINE:
Q. MARCH.
—
STEADY.

On the word WHEEL—The Coverer of each (except the front) Company will step his paces from the 7th file from the named flank, as directed in PART I., No. 5.

On the 2nd word MARCH—The Companies in echelon will step off: each Coverer, as he arrives within 20 paces of the alignment, running out, and covering (on the base points placed in front of the named Company) at arm's length from the spot where the outer flank of his Company will rest in Line, and taking post in Line when the 2nd Company from his own has got the word *Eyes front*.

The Coverers of the two Companies that come up last into Line will both take post when the *last* Company gets *Eyes front*.

N.B.—If the Line is to be formed *obliquely* to the front of the column:—The front Company will first be wheeled back, on its reverse flank, into the required direction. The remainder will then be wheeled back into echelon; their Coverers taking, *in addition to the usual 4 paces*, half the number of paces wheeled back by the front Company. If the front Company is wheeled *up*, the remaining Coverers will proceed as in No. 21.

(b) *Line on the rear Company.*

FORM LINE
ON THE REAR
COMPANY.

REMAINING
COMPANIES:
RIGHT-ABOUT
FACE.

FOUR PACES
ON THE RIGHT
(or LEFT)
BACKWARD
WHEEL.
Q. MARCH.

FORM LINE:
Q. MARCH.

—
STEADY.

The Coverer and supernumerary Serjeant of the rear Company will give the base points as in (a).

The remaining Companies having been faced to the right-about, each Coverer will proceed as in (a): except that, in giving his point, he must allow one pace extra distance to enable his Company to pass clear of him to the rear; taking a pace forward the moment it has passed, so as not to interfere with the inner flank of the next Company coming up into Line.

(c) *Line on a central Company.*

FORM LINE
ON No. —
COMPANIES
IN FRONT:
RIGHT-ABOUT
FACE.
FOUR PACES
ON THE RIGHT
(or LEFT)
BACKWARD
WHEEL.
Q. MARCH.
FORM LINE:
Q. MARCH.
STEADY.

The Coverer and supernumerary Serjeant of the named Company will give the base points in front of it, the Coverer, whether right or left is in front, placing himself opposite to its left, the supernumerary Serjeant opposite to its right, flank file. They will, as usual in a central formation, face inwards—*viz.* towards each other.

The Coverers in rear of the named Company will proceed as in (a): those in its front, as in (b).

(B) *Line, on the march, on the leading Company.*

FORM LINE
ON THE
LEADING
COMPANY.
REMAINING
COMPANIES:
LEFT
(or RIGHT)
WHEEL.
FORWARD.

The Coverer and supernumerary Serjeant of the leading Company will run out to give the base points, as in the same formation from the halt, when its Captain gives *Halt : dress* [or, if the column is retiring, *Halt, front : dress*].

Each of the remaining Coverers: if the column is *advancing*, will take his Captain's place when the latter changes flank; if the column is *retiring*, will move, during the wheel into echelon, to the wheeling flank of the Company; running out, in either case, to give his point as in the same formation from the halt.

No. 21. *A Battalion in open column forming Line to the reverse flank.*

(F. E., IV., Sec. 35.)

FORM LINE TO
THE REVERSE
FLANK.

STEADY.

The Coverer of each Company, when his Captain changes flank, will take the place he has left.

When the Captain of the leading Company gives *Right (or Left) wheel: double*, its Coverer and supernumerary Serjeant will run out and mark the base of formation, at arm's length in front of the ground which the Company will occupy when in Line. They will give their points and take post in Line according to the general rule: *see* p. 23.

The Coverer of each of the other Companies will march on its outer flank till within 20 paces of his ground, when he will run out to take up his covering as usual.

[Columns of Subdivisions (or Sections) will be formed to the reverse flank in like manner; Coverers taking distance for their whole Companies.]

* * When the Companies having broken into fours from their reverse flank, Line is to be formed to that flank, each Company in succession forming on its leading file:—the Coverer and supernumerary Serjeant of the leading Company mark the base of formation, the other Coverers in succession give their points as directed in PART I., No. 11 (b).

No. 22. *A Battalion in double column forming Line to the front.*

(F. E., IV., Sec. 36.)

N.B.—A Battalion in double column of Companies may form Line to the front by echelon either from the halt or on the march; each Wing forming on its front Company as a single open column. A double column of Subdivisions (or Sections) when forming on the same principle will always do so on the march: if required to form Line from the halt without advancing the two front Subdivisions (or Sections), it will be closed to quarter distance and then deployed.

FORM LINE ON
THE TWO
LEADING —.
REMAINING
—:
OUTWARDS
WHEEL.
—
FORWARD.

When a double column of Companies (Subdivisions, or Sections) forms Line by echelon on the march, the Coverer of each of the two leading Companies, when his Company (or its inner Subdivision or Section) is halted and closed, will give a base point opposite to its outer flank.

The remaining Coverers of each Wing, when their Captains change flank, will take the places they have left; running out at the usual time to take up covering for their (whole) Company.

FORM LINE ON
THE TWO
FRONT
COMPANIES.
—
REMAINING
COMPANIES:
FOUR PACES
ON THE RIGHT
AND LEFT
BACKWARD
WHEEL.
Q. MARCH.
—
FORM LINE:
Q. MARCH.

When a double column of Companies form Line by echelon from the halt, the Coverer of each except the front Company of each Wing will step the 4 paces from the 7th file from the inner flank.

The base of formation will be marked as above directed.

[When a double column of Companies (Subdivisions, or Sections) is closed to quarter distance and then deployed, Coverers proceed as directed in No. 24.]

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No. 23. *A Battalion in double column forming Line to the right or left.*

(F. E. IV., Sec. 37.)

(A) *On the march.*

FORM LINE TO THE —. *On the word LINE*—The supernumerary Serjeant of the rear Company of the, named Wing will mark the inner flank of the intended Line. Each Coverer of that Wing will mark the outer flank of his Company, facing, as usual, to the point of *appui*.

— WING:
— WHEEL
INTO LINE.
—
STEADY.

Each Coverer of the other Wing, when his Captain changes flank, will take the place he has left; running out at the usual time to take up covering for his (whole) Company.

(B) *From the Halt.*

FORM LINE TO THE —. The Coverers of the named Wing will proceed as directed in No. 19; the remainder as directed in (A).

— WING:
— WHEEL
INTO LINE.
—
THE WHOLE:
Q. MARCH.
—
STEADY.

[The centre Serjeant will give a centre base point, facing towards the point of *appui* (right or left, as the case may be).]

SEC. V.—DEPLOYMENTS.

No. 24. *A Battalion deploying into Line.*

(F. E. IV., Secs. 38–40.)

N.B.—Deployments are made from column (or double column) at close or quarter distance; on the front Company (or two front Companies or Subdivisions). In all the following formations: the two Serjeants marking the base of formation, and the Coverers giving the intermediate points, will fall into their places in Line as directed in No. 20.

(A) *Deploying from single column to either flank.*

DEPLOY TO
THE LEFT
(or RIGHT).
—
FORM FOURS:
LEFT
(or RIGHT).
—
Q. MARCH.
—
STEADY.

On the Caution—The Coverer and supernumerary Serjeant of the front Company will mark the base of formation: placing themselves according to the general rule.*

On the word LEFT (or RIGHT)—The Coverer of the next Company will mark where its outer flank will rest; covering on the base points.

Each of the remaining Coverers will, as usual, lead the front rank of his Company while it is in fours; march on its outer flank when it turns to the front; and, when within 20 paces of the alignment, run out to give his point.

(B) *Deploying from single column to both flanks.*

DEPLOY OUT-
WARDS:—
COMPANIES TO
THE RIGHT.
—
FORM FOURS:
OUTWARDS.
—
Q. MARCH.
—
STEADY.

On the Caution—The Coverer and supernumerary Serjeant of the front Company will give the base points, in front respectively of its reverse and pivot flank file.

On the word OUTWARDS—The Coverer of the next Company will mark its outer flank.

The remaining Coverers will proceed as in (A).

* See p. 23.

(C) *Deploying from double column.*

In deployments from double column, the base of formation is marked as in No. 22. The remaining Coverers of each Wing give their points as above directed. If the column is formed of Subdivisions, each Coverer takes distance, as usual, for his whole Company.

¶ *A Line changing front by the intermediate formation of open column on any named Company.*

When front is to be changed to the right (on whatever Company), the column will be formed left in front, and the named Company—if required to wheel back—will wheel back on its right: when front is to be changed to the left, *vice versâ*.

The Coverer of the Company of formation, if it is required to wheel back, will—except when required to indicate the direction of the new alignment*—take his Captain's place when the latter moves out to give his word of command: facing in the direction of the new alignment.

During the formation of the column, all the Coverers will proceed as in No. 18: when the column is wheeled into Line, as in No. 19.

* *i.e.* when the column is to be formed in rear of the right- (or left-) flank, or on a central, Company.

SEC. VI.—SQUARES.

No. 25. *A Battalion in column forming Square.*

(F. E. IV., Secs. 42, 43, 47.)

* * The directions in brackets [], refer to *two-deep* Squares.(1) *From open (or quarter-distance) column: on the front Company.*

ON THE
FRONT
COMPANY,
FOUR-DEEP (or
TWO-DEEP):
FORM
SQUARE.
—
[Q. (or D.)
MARCH.]
SECTIONS
[or SUBDIVI-
SIONS]
OUTWARDS.*

The Coverer of the front Company will run into Square on the word MARCH, or his Captain's word *Halt: dress*, according as the column is halted or advancing. The Coverers of the two rear Companies [or the Coverer of the rear Company] will run on into Square as the 3rd [or 2nd] Company from the rear brings Sections [or Subdivisions] outwards.

(2) *From open column: on the rear Company.*

ON THE REAR
COMPANY,
FOUR-DEEP (or
TWO-DEEP):
FORM
SQUARE.
—
[RIGHT-ABOUT
FACE.]
—
[Q. (or D.)
MARCH.]

The Coverers of the two rear Companies [or the Coverer of the rear Company] will run into Square on the word MARCH, or, if the column is retiring, when the Captain of the rear Company gives *Halt: dress*. The Coverers of the two proper front Companies [or the Coverer of the proper front Company] will run into Square as the 3rd [or 2nd] Company from the proper front gets *Sections* [or *Subdivisions*] outwards.

(3) *From open column: on the centre.*

ON THE
CENTRE
COMPANY,
FOUR-DEEP [or
TWO-DEEP]:
FORM
SQUARE.
—
WING:
RIGHT-ABOUT
FACE.
—
Q. (or D.)
MARCH.

The Coverers of side-face Companies will move into Square when the Company preceding them gets *Sections* [or *Subdivisions*] outwards: the remainder as in (2) or (1) according as they are in the proper front or rear Wing.

* In open column, the word *Sections* (or *Subdivisions*) outwards is given by the Captains of the side-face Companies.

SEC. VII.—ECHELLON MOVEMENTS.

No. 26. *A Battalion wheeling forward from Line into Echelon.*

(F. E. IV., Sec. 51.)

(A) *From the halt : by Companies.*

WHEEL INTO
ECHELLON OF
COMPANIES
TO THE
RIGHT (or
LEFT.
COMPANIES:
— PACES
— WHEEL.

On the Caution—If the wheel is to be to the left, all the Coverers will change flanks.

On the word WHEEL—Each Coverer will step his paces, &c., as directed at p. 14.

STEADY.
Q. MARCH.

(B) *On moveable pivots.*

TAKEGROUND
TO THE —
IN ECHELLON
OF COMPANIES
(SUBDIVISIONS
or SECTIONS):
BY —
— WHEEL.
FORWARD.

On the word FORWARD—If the Echelon is formed of Companies, each Coverer will take post on the outer flank of his Company; if of Subdivisions (or Sections), will remain in his place.

No. 27. *A Battalion in oblique echelon of Companies re-forming Line.*

(F. E. IV., Secs. 52, 53.)

(A) *Line parallel to the original Line.*

(From the Halt.)

RE-FORM
LINE.
—
STEADY.
Q. MARCH.

On the Caution—Each Coverer, if on the left of his Company, will change to its right; if on the right, will remain there: falling back into his place in Line on his Captain's word *Eyes front*.

[If Line is re-formed *on the march* from an Echelon formed to the left:—Each Coverer, on the word **FORWARD**, will make way for his Captain (who will in that case change his flank) to move up on the right of the Company.]

(B) *Line oblique to the original Line.*

FORM LINE
ON THE
FRONT
COMPANY.
(Suppose the original wheel was
4 paces)—
REMAINING
COMPANIES:
TWO PACES
ON THE —
BACKWARD
WHEEL.

—
STEADY.

—
Q. MARCH.

FORM LINE:
Q. MARCH.

The Coverer of each Company that is wheeled backward or forward preparatory to the formation of the new Line, will proceed as directed at p. 14.

The front Company (or the remaining Companies, as the case may be) having been wheeled as may be necessary*—The Coverer and supernumerary Serjeant of the front Company will mark the base of formation in front of it: according to the general rule.

On the 2nd word MARCH—The remaining Coverers will march off on the outer flank of their respective Companies, running out to take up their covering as usual.

No. 28. *A Battalion in Line changing front by echelon.*

(F. E. IV., Sec. 54, 56.)

(A)
CHANGE
FRONT ON
THE RIGHT
(or LEFT)
COMPANY,
LEFT
(or RIGHT)
THROWN
FORWARD
[THE
QUARTER
CIRCLE].

REMAINING
COMPANIES:
ON THE MOVE,
RIGHT (or
LEFT) WHEEL.
Q. MARCH.

FORWARD.

—
STEADY.

N. B.—The following instructions assume that the Company of formation is wheeled into the required position by its Captain on the caution; and the remaining Companies wheeled on moveable pivots by the Battalion-commander.

(A) *On a flank Company: the remainder thrown forward.*

On the Caution—If the Company of formation is to wheel the *quarter circle*, its Coverer will (as usual) move out to mark where its wheeling flank will rest.

* The Company of formation will be wheeled up from the original alignment at double the angle that the remainder are wheeled: or, the remainder will be wheeled to half the angle that the Company of formation is wheeled.

(B)
CHANGE
FRONT ON
THE RIGHT
(or LEFT)
COMPANY,
LEFT
(or RIGHT)
THROWN
BACK [THE
QUARTER
CIRCLE].

REMAINING
COMPANIES:
RIGHT-ABOUT
FACE.

ON THE MOVE,
LEFT
(or RIGHT)
WHEEL.
Q. MARCH.
—
FORWARD.
—
STEADY.

(C)
CHANGE
FRONT ON
THE CENTRE
(or No. —
COMPANY),
RIGHT
(or LEFT)
THROWN
FORWARD
[THE
QUARTER
CIRCLE].

LEFT
(or RIGHT)
WING: or
COMPANIES
ON THE LEFT
(or RIGHT):
RIGHT-ABOUT
FACE.

ON THE MOVE,
INWARDS
WHEEL.
Q. MARCH.
—
FORWARD.
—
STEADY.

On their Captain's word "Halt (front) dress"—The Coverer and supernumerary Serjeant of the Company of formation will give the base points in front of it: according to the general rule.

On the word FORWARD—Each of the remaining Coverers will place himself on the outer flank of his Company: running out to take up his covering as usual.

(B) *On a flank Company: the remainder thrown back.*

The Coverer and supernumerary Serjeant of the Company of formation, and the other Coverers, will proceed as in (A).

(C) *On a central Company; or the centre of the Battalion.*

1. If the change of front is on the centre of a Company:—

On the Caution: The Coverer of the named Company, as in (A).

On their Captain's word "Halt"—The Coverer and supernumerary Serjeant of the named Company will proceed as directed in PART I., No. 6.

2. If the change of front is on the centre of the Battalion:—

On the Caution—If the two centre Companies are to wheel the *quarter circle*, the Coverer of the one that is to wheel forward will mark where its wheeling flank will rest.

On the left-centre Captain's word "Halt (front), dress"—The Coverer of each of the two centre Companies will give a point on the outer flank of his

Company; the centre Serjeant giving a centre base point.

The Coverers of the remaining Companies will give their points as usual.

* * When either of the above movements is performed from the Halt, *not* 'on moveable pivots':—The Coverer of the named Company (or, when the change of front is on the centre of the Battalion, the Coverer of whichever of the two centre Companies is to wheel forward) will—unless the change of front is to be at right angles, in which case he will as usual mark its wheeling flank—be directed to wheel from the 7th file from the pivot man*, and will be halted, by the Battalion-commander. On the word **WHEEL**: each of the remaining Coverers will take the ordered number of paces from the 7th file from the inner flank of his Company, in the usual way.

* In a change of front on a central Company (or on the centre of the Battalion), the pivot man will, of course, be the front-rank man on the inner flank of the Subdivision (or Company) which is to wheel forward.

No. 29. *Advancing or Retiring in direct Echellon of Companies.*

(F. E. IV., Sec. 57.)

(A) *Advancing.*

ADVANCE
(or RETIRE)
IN DIRECT
ECHELLON OF
COMPANIES,
AT
WHEELING
[or — PACES]
DISTANCE,
FROM THE
RIGHT
(or LEFT).

On the Caution—If the advance is to be from the right: each Coverer will change his flank, but will not move up on the left of his front rank (his post in echellon) till his Company has moved out clear of the Line. If the advance is to be from the left: each Coverer will take a pace to his rear and a side-pace to the left, to allow his Captain to pass to the rear; and will then move up on the right of his front rank (his post in echellon).

(B) *Retiring.*

On the Caution—If the retreat is to be from the right, each Coverer will change his flank: if from the left, will make way, as in (A), for his Captain to pass to the rear, and will then move up on the right of the rear rank of his Company.

No. 30. *Re-forming Line from direct Echellon.*

(F. E. IV., Secs. 58, 59.)

(A) *Line parallel to the original Line.*

RE-FORM
LINE ON No.—
COMPANY.
[REMAINING
COMPANIES
(or COMPANIES
IN FRONT):
RIGHT-ABOUT
FACE.]

On the Caution (or their Captain's word 'Halt, dress')—
The Coverer and supernumerary Serjeant of the named Company will give the base points.

Each of the other Coverers, if his Company is faced (or turned) about, will change flank: as he arrives within 20 paces of the alignment, he will run out to give his point as usual.

Q. MARCH.
STEADY.

(B) *Line at right angles to the original Line.*

FORM LINE
TO THE —

— BY
COMPANIES,
— WHEEL

FORWARD.

—
STEADY.

During the wheel—All the Coverers will change flank :
During the formation of Line, they will proceed as
in (A).

Note.—When it is necessary to form Line from direct
echellon *at an angle less than a right angle* to the original
alignment : the echellon will be wheeled forward into
column and the Captains ordered to correct their distances
and their covering in the required direction. The column
will then be wheeled into Line.

SEC. VIII.—INSPECTION OR REVIEW.

When the Line takes open and close order, and in
Marching past, Coverers proceed as directed in
PART I., Nos. 1 and 2. During the *Manual* and
Platoon, they remain steady at the 'shoulder'.

APPENDIX.

DUTIES OF COVERING-SERJEANTS IN BRIGADE.

A BRIGADE is composed of two, three, or more battalions; seldom of more than four. Its commander is termed the Brigadier; he is assisted by a Brigade-major whose duty it is to dress points and pivots, take up ground, &c. A brigade moves under the direction of the Brigadier as a battalion moves under the direction of its commander; the 'base battalion' of the brigade answering to the 'base company' of the battalion, and the principles on which changes of front and deployments are regulated being the same in both cases.

When the battalions are formed in Line, they are invariably drawn up at the interval of six paces from each other.

When the battalions are in close or quarter-distance column and drawn up in line, the interval between each column will never be *less* than six paces; it may, at the discretion of the Brigadier, vary from six paces to deploying interval. When the intervals are six paces, the columns are termed 'contiguous'.

When the battalions are in column and drawn up one in rear of the other, they are said to be 'in mass'. If the columns are at close or quarter distance, the distance between each will be six

paces ; if they are open, it will be equal to the breadth of the front company of the column and six paces. The order in which the battalions may stand when in mass will in no way affect their pivot flanks.

When a battalion is in column, the supernumerary serjeant and coverer of the front company ; when in double column, the coverers of the two front companies and the centre serjeant are termed ' the base points of the battalion '.

1. In all deployments or formations into Line, or into line of columns *at deploying interval*, the general alignment is preserved by mounted officers.

2. In forming, or deploying into, a line of contiguous columns ; when a line of contiguous columns is required to change front, open to less than deploying interval, or dress ; and when a line of columns at more than contiguous interval is required to close ; the alignment is marked by the base points of each battalion, the coverer in all cases marking the outer flank of his battalion.

3. In forming, or deploying into, a line of contiguous columns, the base points of the base battalion run out as soon as its Commander has repeated the brigade caution ; those of the remaining battalions, as they arrive at 20 paces from the alignment. In the other cases above specified, all the base points * move out simultaneously when their battalion-commander has repeated the brigade caution.

4. In deployments from line or mass of columns into Line, the base battalion, in the formation of Line from double column by echelon each battalion, throws out the same points as if working singly.

* Except the base points of any battalion thrown *back*, when a line of contiguous columns changes front ; who cannot take up their covering till their battalion has wheeled clear of the alignment.

5. The foot-points stand, as in battalion, at arm's length from the alignment. The base points of the base battalion face precisely as in battalion. All the other points face to the brigade point of *appui*; except when a battalion, not being the base battalion, deploys outwards, or forms Line on its centre or on a central company, in which case its intermediate points cover on its base points.

6. Base points in no case fall back to their places in battalion, except by the direction, or on the signal, of the Brigade-major. The *intermediate* points in Line formations fall back, as in battalion, when the second company from them has been dressed.

FINIS.

